



The

Blurb



Newsletter of The Phil–Mont Mobile Radio Club
Public Service Since 1949

Volume 54 Number 6

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June 2004

PMRC Field Day – Fifty Years Ago

June 1954



In This Issue

Amateur radio reaches space aboard an amateur rocket.....	3
FD 2004 Update.....	4
Some of the Station Statistics will be set up in your Field Day computer prior to Field Day.....	6
Spread The Word.....	7
VE Exam Session Statistics	7
K2ADJ	8

**Join us in carrying on a
long tradition:**

ARRL Field Day

June 26–27

The Blurb is published monthly by, and for, the members of **The PHIL-MONT MOBILE RADIO CLUB, INC.** whose purpose is to promote Amateur Radio in general, and Mobile Radio in particular. *Copying and quoting* is permitted with a credit line. We gladly exchange publications with other amateur radio clubs. Requests should be sent to the Editor. *Subscriptions* are available to non-members for \$10, addressed to the Treasurer.

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Submissions deadline: all copy must be in the hands of the Editors by the 20th of the previous month.

Sunday Morning Net Schedules

- **2 Meter/ 70cm Net**.....at 09:30et on W3QV repeater
- **10-on-10 Net**at 10:00et 28.393 MHz USB (±QRM)
- **75 meter Net**at 10:20et 3.993 MHz LSB

License Examinations

are held on the **first non-holiday Thursday** each month (except July and August) at **Northeast High School,**

Cottman and Algon Streets, Philadelphia PA

Registration begins at 6:00 P.M. Enter through the SPARC wing. Exams begin and doors closed and locked at **6:30 P.M.**

Sharp! Applicants should call Dusty ND3Q at 215-879-0505 (day) or 215 482 0386 (eve) for the latest information.

Contact Phil-mont:

P.O. Box 88

Abington, PA 19001

<http://www.phil-mont.org>

webmistress Maggie K3XS k3xs@arrl.net

For club information: contact any club officer, or the repeaters listed below. Address or club directory changes, and articles that are for the membership e-mail list should be sent to:
wb3koj@comcast.net

The club meets at 7:30 PM on the **second non-holiday Wednesday** of every month except July and August at **The Masonic Village at Lafayette Hill**
801 Ridge Pike
Lafayette Hill, PA
19444-1799

All visitors are welcome!

Club Stations

W3QV Club Repeater – Trustee: W3BBB

Ridge & Port Royal Avenues, Philadelphia, PA

147.03 MHz + PL 91.5 Hz & 444.80 MHz + PL 186.2 Hz

W3AA at Northeast High School –Trustee: WU3I

Cottman and Algon Streets, Philadelphia, PA

W3EM – Field Day and special event station

Trustee: W3VVS

President:W3STW

Al Tribble

2848 Carter Rd.

Trevoise PA 19053

wstw@juno.com

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PO Box 6002

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Asst. Treasurer: N3MT

Micheal P. Taraborrelli
mtarab01@villanova.edu

Directors: W3BBB(05), N3MT (05), N3XKE (05) WU3I (04), K3XS(04), N3XYZ(04), KB3IV(A)

Committees

Archives: NG3P

Audit: NS3K

Awards: open

Blurb folding:

WB3KOJ & WB3KOH

Directory:WB3KOJ

DX: N3MT

Emerg.Coar.: K3HWE

Field Day: KE3QB

Internet: K3XS

Membership: W3LEN

Net Control: KB3IV

Publicity: W3RM

Program: Club VP

Public Service: open

Refreshments: W3AOK

Repeater: W3BBB

Skywarn: WX3PHI

Sunshine: N3GLU

Youth: N3MT

TVI: W3VVS

VE Program: ND3Q

W3AA Trustee: WU3I

Welcome: K3CJ.

Amateur radio reaches space aboard an amateur rocket

by Maggie Leber K3XS
from ARRL reports and releases from CSXT and Stratofox.

Amateur radio operators have played an essential role in the successful flight of the Civilian Space EXploration Team's (CSXT) solid-fueled *Go Fast* rocket to the edge of space.

Eric Knight KB1EHE, a member of the team including eight radio amateurs who provided the avionics package on board the *Go Fast* told the ARRL "Within two seconds into the flight we were already supersonic." The team homebuilt patch antennas for a 33cm telemetry downlink, 13cm amateur TV, and onboard GPS units. Patch antennas made from conductive materials can be applied to the surface of an airframe without interfering with its aerodynamic characteristics, and this custom design and construction work contributed to the success of the mission.

The AVT system provided spectacular color images from

the spacecraft from liftoff until a 540 rpm spin rate made the video unusable five to ten seconds into the flight. As the rocket reached Mach 5 (five times the speed of sound), paint, decals, and some of the patch antennas suffered thermal damage from air friction heating.

With the loss of the telemetry downlink, falconry beacons attached to the recovery parachute shrouds transmitting in the 224 MHz band became the primary signal used by the *Stratofox Aerospace Tracking and Recovery Team* to locate the nosecone and avionics package where it had landed 25 miles downrange from the launch point, in the Black Rock desert site in Nevada. The condition of the avionics package was described as "pristine" and ready for another flight, although it is hoped that it will instead be donated to the National Air and Space Museum.

Stratofox describes themselves as a team of Amateur Radio operators who participate in tracking and recovery operations for amateur rocketry and high-altitude balloon ("amateur aerospace") flights. (The Stratofox website is

<http://www.stratofox.org>)

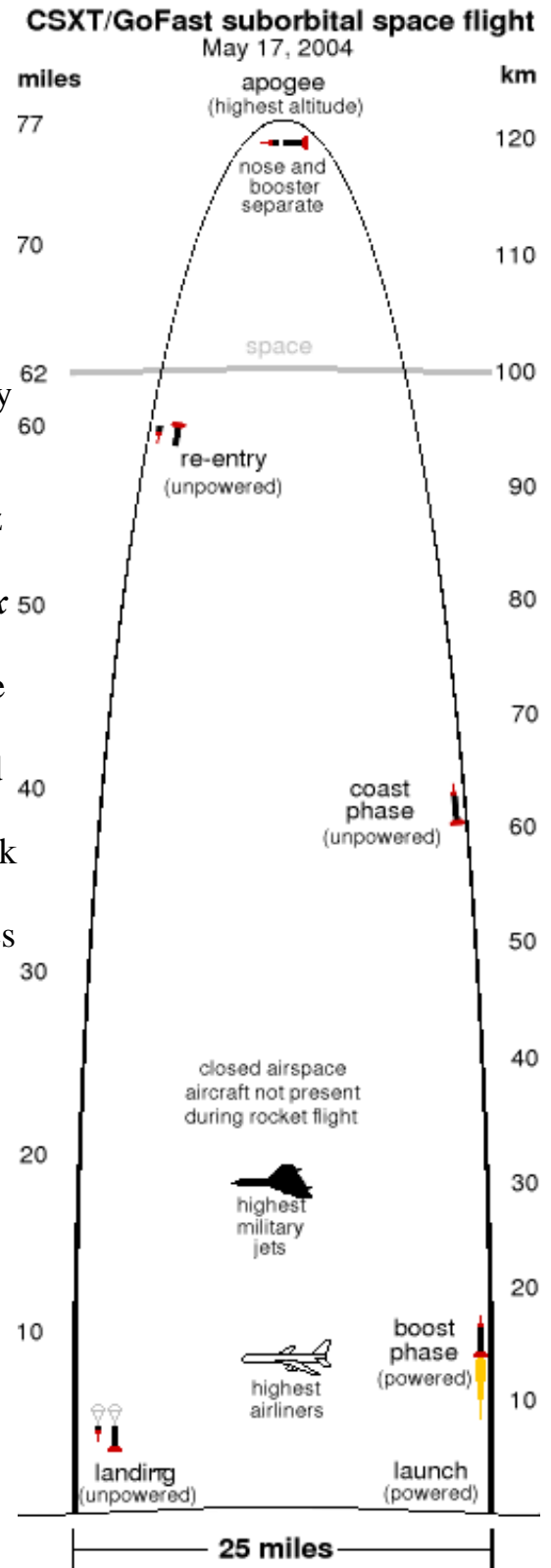


image by Stratofox <http://www.stratofox.org/>

FD 2004 Update

Greetings PMRC Members
and Here is a FD 2004
Update:

First off, by the time you read this, the Field Day shirts and Pins will be in. They will be at the June Meeting and at Field Day, so bring your money to either one for your purchase.

Secondly, Steve, WU3I and I will be at Fort Washington Park on Friday afternoon after 2:00 P.M. to start setting things up. We can really use some volunteers for Friday setup but mainly on Saturday morning. Please try to come out and help make FD 2004 a fun club event for all. Please listen to weather reports and bring some fluids and/or water to drink if it's hot and humid Saturday in order to avoid dehydration. The Kitchen will be setup sometime Saturday afternoon for Lunch. If you are coming out and spending the weekend, let me know so you can be added to the Meal Eating Attendees list.

Our FD 2004 Band Captains are as follows:

10 M TED N3OWM
15 M BILL WA3NSP
20 M STEVE K3PHL

40 M DICK W3RM
75/80 M JOHN W3AYT
DIGITAL FRED WA3KIO
VHF/UHF BILL W3AOK
GOTA STATION ERIC
N3YXZ
SATELLITE MAGGIE K3XS
/ AL W3STW

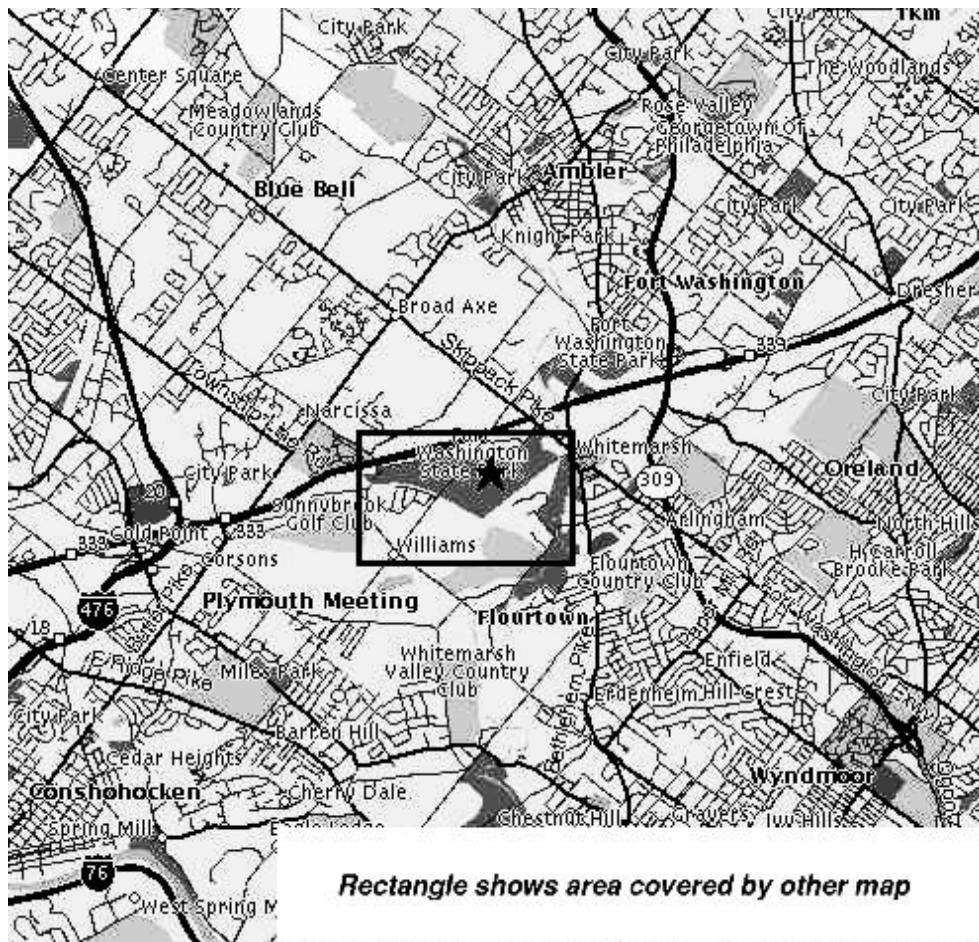
We will have demonstrations on ATV by N3OWM, SSTV by WA3KIO, APRS and SATELLITE by K3XS and W3STW and the GOTA STATION by N3YXZ.

All of the stations will have a laptop computer for logging contacts but I have to plea for help to all for any laptop

computers that may be collecting dust in your shack. We have 3 working laptops this year and thanks to Bill, W3AOK, we will have enough for all the stations. Your donation may be considered as a tax deduction also. We really need them and they will be put to great use, not only on Field Day but also if any event we are called to help out with.

Directions to Fort Washington State Park:

From Turnpike Exit 26, follow Pennsylvania Ave. to Bethlehem Pike. Turn left onto Bethlehem Pike and



Rectangle shows area covered by other map

follow to Skippack Pike, Rte. 73. Turn right onto RTE. 73W, "Bent Elbow Tavern" on the corner and after crossing Wissahickon Creek, turn left onto Militia Hill Road where you will see the State Park sign. Turn Left into the entrance and follow the PMRC signs up the road to Site B. You will come to the top of the road where you will go straight or turn Right to Site B.

Route 73 West from Cottman Ave., Route 611 or Easton Road just to mention a few. Once on 73 W, follow it right to Militia Hill Road and the Park.

Talk in will be on W3QV 147.03 repeater. for those needing assistance.

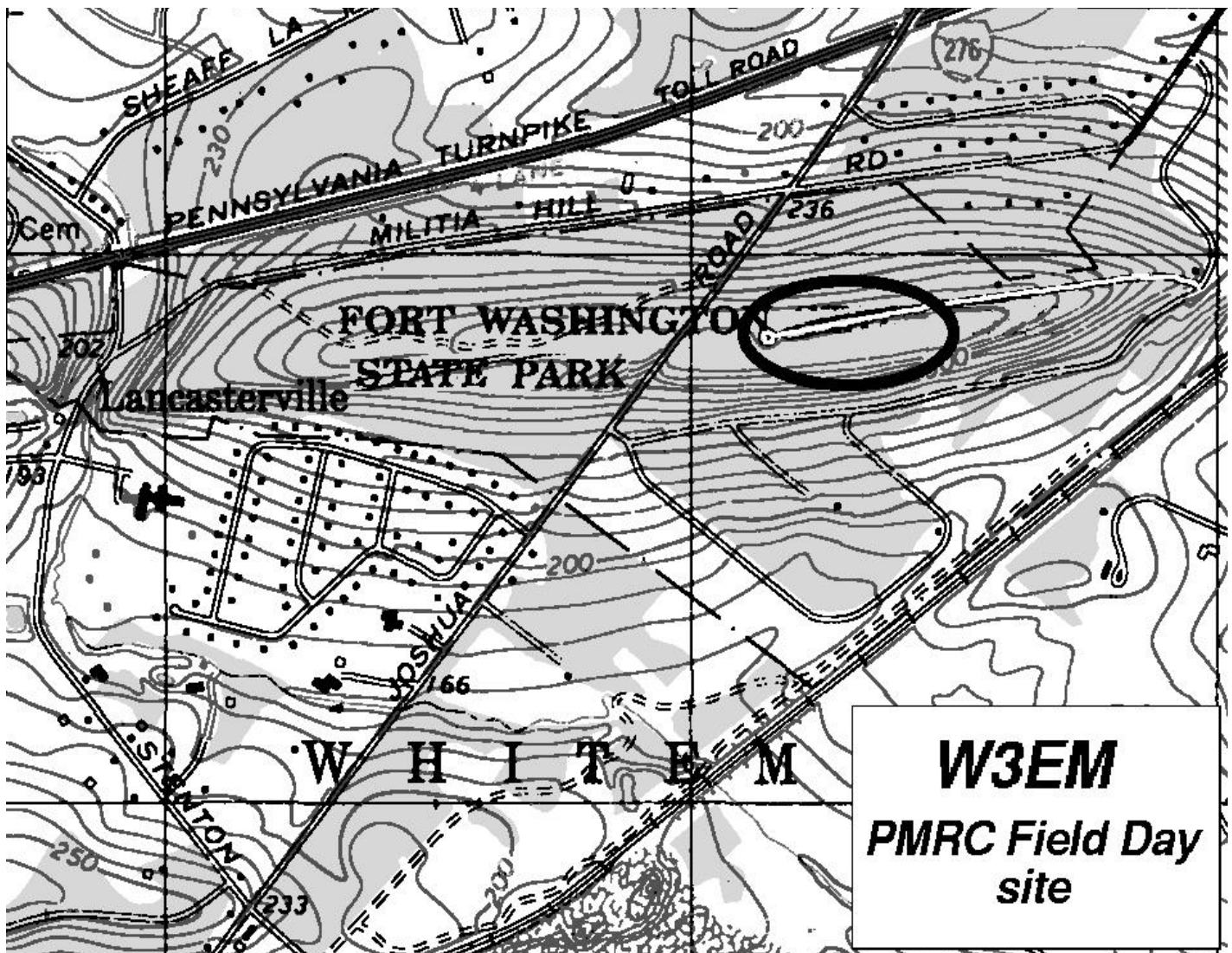
MAPQUEST via the Internet will also give directions right from your front door.

*everyone who will make
FD 2004 a fun and
successful event for all.*

Carmen, KE3QB

*From Phila., work your way
to*

Thank You in advance to



WR9R FIELD DAY LOGGING SOFTWARE

Here are some Basics to using the WR9R Field Day Logging Software:

The Logging Software will be on a 3.5 floppy disk.

You will have one for Phone and one for CW

Some of the Station Statistics will be set up in your Field Day computer prior to Field Day.

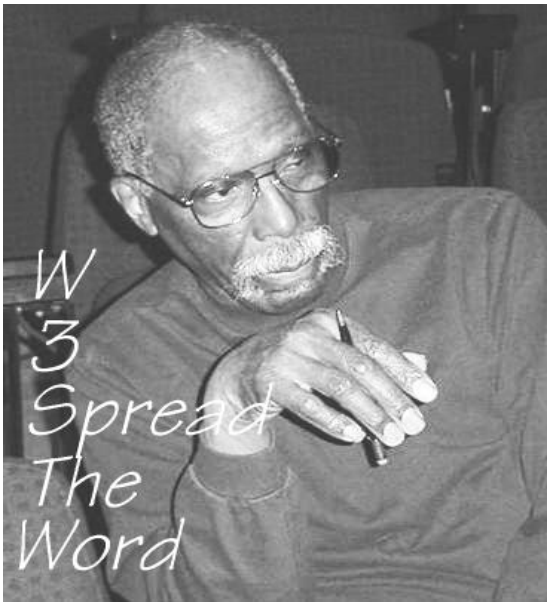
- The computer will be set up for UTC time
- One the disk is inserted, at the cursor prompt, type the Application name and database file: Example: WR9R 10PH.FD
- Once the program starts, double check the Station Statistics for your Band:
Example: W3EM 6A
EPA 150w or less 10m
phone UTC time.
- Space Bar or TAB key will move you from one field to the next.
- ENTER key will log in the call/contact.
- DEL key will wipe the current field you are in.
- CTRL W key will erase all 3 fields allowing you to start with a new entry.
- RIGHT~LEFT~BKSPCE keys will allow character editing.
- UP~DWN Arrow keys ~ PGE UP~PGE DWN~HOME~END keys will allow access to past QSO's/contacts.
- ESC~ENTER keys will exit the mode you are in with no change to your Field Day Log.
- ENTER key will also save changes to your Field Day Log.
- The F~keys on the lower part of the screen are self-explanatory.
- F3~F4 keys will change band and mode of operation. **YOU WILL NOT BE TOUCHING F3~F4 KEYS BECAUSE YOU WILL BE ON ONE BAND AND HAVE SEPAERATE DISKS FOR PHONE AND CW.**
- ALT~H key will pop up

the Help File. This file explains the different functions of the WR9R Logging Program.

- ALT~S key will bring up the ARRL/RAC Sections file. This will be very handy to pop up and will fit neatly in the right hand upper corner of your screen.

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR PROBLEMS, PLEASE ASK CARMEN, KE3QB OR STEVE WU3I OR BILL W3AOK.

Vacation schedules have delayed publication of the minutes for the May PMRC Board of Directors and general meetings. We expect to have them in time to publish them in the next issue of The Blurb



Spread The Word

As many of you know I've been tutoring a few North East high school students this past semester for the purpose of obtaining an amateur radio license. Hopes are that Magnet School students Ahmead KB3AOL, Jeswin KB3KOB and Leonardo KB3KOL will take full advantage of the amateur radio facilities on location i.e. amateur radio station W3YC the first high school to be granted a station license in the country. Magnet School students of North East Public High School must maintain grades of "B" or better. Today I am happy to report another first. Magnet School student Alena Martinez-Hart becomes the first female to operate, as control operator, W3YC. Alena successfully passed the FCC Technician examination

during the May, 2004 Phil-Mont Mobile Radio Club test session. Alena is a Magnet School student and mastered the technician level requirements in six short weeks her call is KB3LDV. Congratulations Alena.



ARRL VEC

215th Monthly Phil-Mont

VE Exam Session Statistics

for May 6, 2004

Three candidates took six elements, and we had three new amateurs. The VE team was chaired by Dusty Rhoads **ND3Q**, and the other participating VEs were

GENE DINARDI N3XKE
AL TRIBBLE W3STW
JIM MCCLOSKEY NS3K.

Upcoming Exam Session: June 3 2004

(See page 2 for details)



K2ADJ

Rodney George Fowler, 73 years old of 341 Lincoln Ave, Edgewater Park, NJ passed away peacefully Thursday, April 29th, 2004 under the merciful care of the Albert Einstein Medical Center in Northeast Philadelphia after an extended illness.

Rodney was born in Hartford, Connecticut on June 27, 1930 and spent his youth in Plymouth, Massachusetts. He then served the United States Air Force from 1950 to 1954 attaining the rank of Staff Sergeant. His assignments included the 6543rd Missile Test Squadron, 6541st Missile Test Wing located at Grand Bahama Aux AFB, Grand Bahama Islands, the 6541st Missile Test Wing at Patrick AFB, Florida and then the 6550th Communications Squadron also at Patrick AFB, Florida where he assumed the duty of Airborne Electronics and Navigation Equipment Maintenance Technician flying on board B-29 aircraft which conducted surveillance missions on behalf of the United States Government during the Korean conflict.

After leaving the Air Force, Mr. Fowler married Carol Manchester of Bourne, Massachusetts in 1956. Together they had four sons, Lawrence White, David Alan, Thomas John and Robert George. Carol, his wife in 45 years of marriage, passed away in October of 1999. His son, Thomas John at 19 years old, passed in 1981. Mr. Fowler was a graduate of the Lowell Technical Institute, Lowell, Massachusetts. Rod made his living as an electronics field service technician working for Raytheon, Nuclear Chicago, G.D. Searle, Tracor and finally TM

Analytic from which he received an award upon retirement in recognition of his 25 plus years of service with their company.

Mr. Fowler was very active in the Amateur Radio hobby throughout his adult life. He held the amateur radio communication station licenses W1SSU, WB2WXX and K2ADJ. He was a member of the Radio Amateur Communications Emergency Service (RACES) as well as the Amateur Radio Relay League (ARRL).

Mr. Fowler was also a proud member of the United States Air Force Military Affiliated Radio System (USAF MARS) program to which he donated much of his time and radio station equipment to facilitate the transfer of morale messages from our servicemen and women stationed overseas back to their family members here in the United States. At one point during Operation Desert Storm, Mr. Fowler's USAF MARS radio station, AFAINC, was handling over 3000 of these morale messages per week. His station would receive these data (packet) radio messages from Germany (via Saudi Arabia) and then distribute them to other

like stations throughout the United States.

During his long tenure with USAF MARS, Mr. Fowler held the titles: Transcon Net Manager (Radio Teletype message format) and National Packet Coordinator (computer data packet message format), as well as the New Jersey State Assistant USAF MARS director. He was also influential in getting the packet mode (computer data transferred via radio wave) accepted and implemented as a viable mode of communication by the USAF MARS organization. Mr. Fowler received many recognition awards from USAF MARS for his dedicated work and volunteered service. Rod Fowler believed very strongly in service to country. He demonstrated that ethic by volunteering his service to the many organizations that serve the public using various modes of radio communication during times of emergency and war.

Rod was one of my Assistant Emergency Coordinators in Burlco ARES/RACES. Rod will always be in our memories as a fine gentleman and always a friend.

K2QIJ



MEMBERSHIP STATS

At press time P.M.R.C. has:
 103 FULL PAID MEMBERS
 8 FAMILY MEMBERS
 1 YOUTH
 1 HONORARY MEMBERS
 2 PENDING MEMBERS

June Birthdays

04 Dick Moll – W3RM
 Sue Sadwin – N2CYA
 06 Chuck Hillman – K3QLY
 10 Thomas Maresca (OM K3YPH)
 12 Miriam Elmaleh – K3UJI (XYL K3HIJ)
 23 Temple Rykaczewski (XYL W3ALM)
 24 Anthony Vece – W2AJV
 28 Betsy Reichert – N3EBE
 30 Mike Lenczynski – KA3EIP
 Fred Rice – WA3KIO

Gerald L. Dubzak, Jr. N3RPW (Jerry)
 305 Shady Lane (2nd. Floor)
 Huntingdon Valley, PA 19006-8746
 Ph: 215-663-1886 Cell: 215-669-8670
 Occupation: Information Technologies

Barbara E. Sampson – KB3KCA
 (same address)
 Occupation: Dispatcher

The Mid-Atlantic Amateur Radio Club Presents the



Sunday July 11, 2004
Rain or Shine • Indoor - Outdoor Facilities

Kimberton, PA • Fire Co. Fairgrounds

Route 113 - South of the Intersection with Route 23

Inside Tables With Electricity

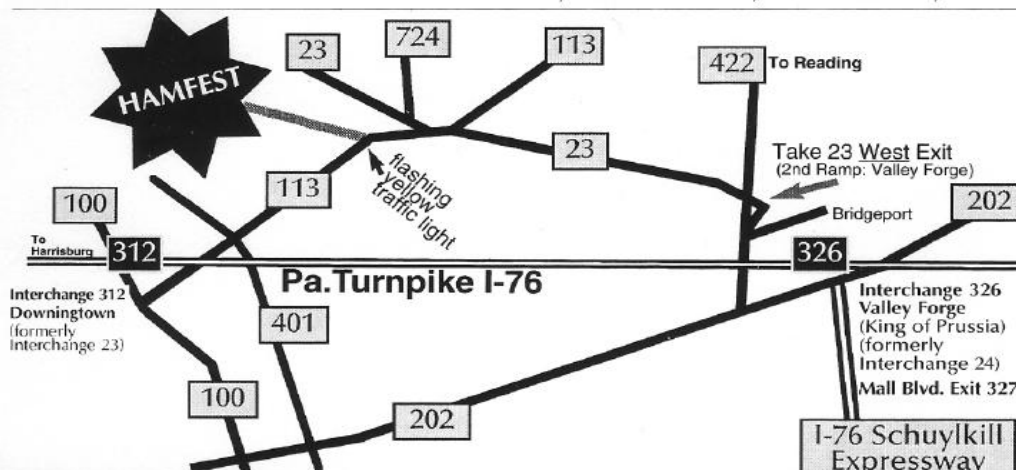
\$10 each for 1-4 Tables,* \$8 each for 5 or more, not including admission. *No advance tailgate sales.*

- **Sellers 7 a.m. - \$6 Tailgate Space**
 Not including admission. No reserved tailgate space.
- **Buyers 8 a.m. - \$6 Admission**
 (unlicensed spouse and children of licensed ham free)

Indoor Table Reservations: Rick Miskinis, N3AGS, 346 E. 9th Ave., Conshohocken, PA. 19428

Phone: 610-825-9590 E-mail: reservations@marc-radio.org

Hamfest Information: hamfest-info@marc-radio.org or website at: www.marc-radio.org/hamfest.html
 or write MARC, PO Box 2154, Southeastern, PA 19399



From the East:

New Jersey: PA Turnpike West to Exit 326 (Valley Forge). Go through toll plaza and take first exit on right (Valley Forge). Follow to Route 23. See ALL below.

Philadelphia: Schuylkill Expressway West to Mall Blvd. Exit 327 (old exit 25). Turn Right on Mall Blvd. Go to stop light, turn Right on to Gulph Road. Follow to Route 23. See ALL below.

ALL: Route 23 West through Valley Forge Park and Phoenixville. Left on Route 113 South (McDonalds on Right). Follow approximately 1.9 miles, Fairgrounds are on the Right.

From the West:

Harrisburg: PA Turnpike East to Exit 312 (Downingtown). Route 100 South to Route 113 North. Cross Route 401. Continue approx. 5 miles on Route 113 to Fairgrounds entrance on Left.

Reading: Route 422 East to Route 724 (past Pottstown). Turn Left off exit ramp onto Route 724. Route 724 ends and becomes Route 23. Follow Route 23 East to Route 113 South (McDonalds on Left). Turn Right onto Route 113. Follow approximately 1.9 miles, Fairgrounds are on the Right.

From the South:

Delaware: 1-95 North to Route 202 North. Continue to exit for Route 401. Turn Left off of exit ramp onto Route 401 East. Continue to Route 113 North. Turn Right onto Route 113, continue approx. 5 miles to Fairground entrance on Left

From the North:

Allentown: Northeast Extension South to PA Turnpike Exit 326 (Valley Forge). Go through toll plaza and take first exit on right (Valley Forge). Follow to Route 23. Continue on Route 23 West through Valley Forge Park and Phoenixville. Left on Route 113 South (McDonalds on Right). Follow approximately 1.9 miles, Fairgrounds are on the Right.

GPS Coordinates: N 40° 07.626 min
 W 75° 34.008 min

Talk In: 145.13/-
 and 147.06/+ CTCSS 131.8

Food and Beverage Sales by
 Authorized Vendors Only.



www.marc-radio.org

Date	June 2004 with PMRC
Tue 01	
Wed 02	PMRC Director's meeting at WRDV
Thu 03	VE Exams at Northeast High School – see page 2
Fri 04	
Sat 05	
Sun 06	NCS –2M and HF: W3YXZ
Mon 07	
Tue 08	
Wed 09	PMRC General Meeting – see page 2
Thu 10	
Fri 11	
Sat 12	
Sun 13	NCS–2m N3OWM HF:WA3KIO
Mon 14	
Tue 15	
Wed 16	
Thu 17	
Fri 18	
Sat 19	
Sun 20	Father's Day – NCS: 2m and HF: KB3IV
Mon 21	
Tue 22	
Wed 23	
Thu 24	
Fri 25	
Sat 26	
Sun 27	NCS: 2M N3FTY HF:W3STW
Mon 28	
Tue 29	
Wed 30	

First Class Mail

The Phil-Mont Mobile Radio Club, Inc
641 Kismet Road Philadelphia PA 19115

The Blue